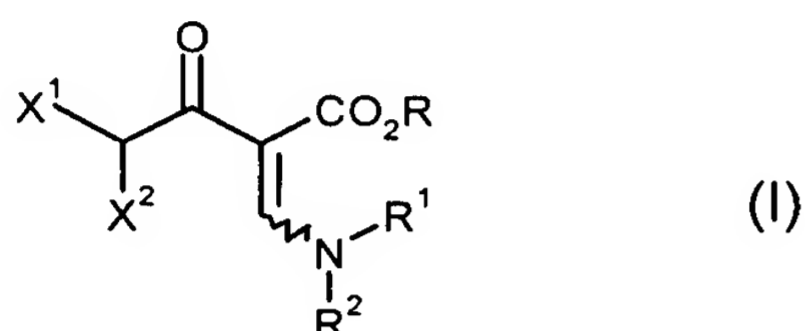


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (previously presented): A process for preparing 2-dihaloacyl-3-aminoacrylic esters of formula (I)

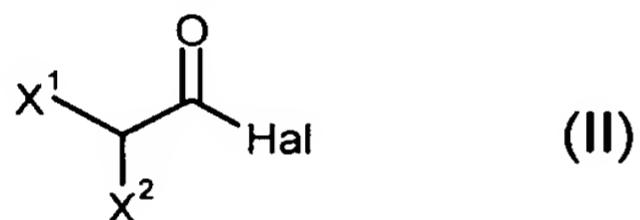


in which

R, R<sup>1</sup>, and R<sup>2</sup> are each independently C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and

X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> are each independently fluorine, chlorine, or bromine,

comprising reacting an acid halide of formula (II)

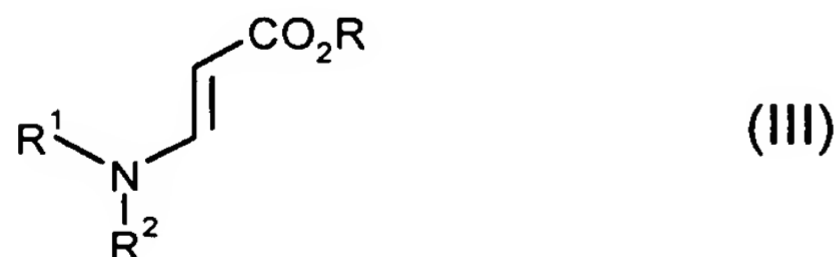


in which

Hal is fluorine, chlorine, or bromine, and

X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> are each independently fluorine, chlorine, or bromine,

with a dialkylaminoacrylic ester of formula (III)



in which R, R<sup>1</sup>, and R<sup>2</sup> are each as defined for formula (I),

in a water-immiscible organic solvent in the presence of a base, wherein the base is an inorganic aqueous base, pyridine, or a pyridine derivative.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A process according to Claim 8 wherein the base is pyridine, picoline, 2-methyl-5-ethylpyridine, 2,4,6-collidine, quinoline, or quinaldine.

Claims 10-13 (canceled)